



The Christian Visitor

A bi-monthly publication of First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ) Rochester, Indiana

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Our Mission: Bring people to Christ, grow as disciples, and together serve God

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2 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

The Worship Team recognizes Christmas Eve Worship as a special occasion and wants to make it available for more people to come for in-person worship. We continue to follow social distancing and other CDC guidelines to make in-person worship a safe experience (safer than any local restaurant). By moving to 2 services, we can enjoy worship with twice as many people (around 45 at each service). We do ask that you wear your facemask while in the building. Both services will be live on Facebook as well. The two worship services will be virtually identical as we remember the story of Christmas in Scripture readings and carol singing. We safely have room for you.

Christmas Eve, December 24

Candlelight Service 7:30 pm

Candlelight Service 11:00 pm





ELDER REFLECTION

With each Visitor newsletter that comes to your home, an Elder has been asked to write an Elder Reflection. The guidelines are few: write what comes to your mind and heart in your Life's faith journey. So here I am. I'm on my umpteenth time of trying to figure out what to write that might shed any light or insight on the challenging year of 2020.

Thank you Heavenly Father for giving me this year.

Others were not given this blessing. I hope that when You look down on me You will determine that overall, I have worked to be a good servant to You.

***"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
Jeremiah 1:5***

This year has been tough. We all have been scared and angry; and frankly we wouldn't be forthcoming with each other if we didn't admit to a moment or two of doubt. But our Father's plan encompass endless universes and goes back a billion years. Any moments of doubt we might have creates a shadow over the light of His Love. It is totally on us. He does not have to prove His faith in us. We must prove our faith to him. He knows pain and sacrifice because He gave His Son to prove the point. He's got this!

I know His love surrounds me like a shield. I know what is ahead for me. I may not know the details but I don't have to. His love allows me to concentrate on my daily walk and doing the best I can for Him. We face another challenging year. Let's go forward as a church family committed to supporting each other and those around us.

Chloeann





Prayer List

*Key: Person's name (description; who submitted request).

Our Mission Co-Worker in Lebanon

Maria Bakalian

Betty & Bill Vance 12/13 Covid

Jesus Ortega delPino 12/13 ICU with Covid, heart attack, on ventilator; father in law of Craig Musgrave

Raquel Musgrave 12/13 flying to Spain to be with family; by Judy Musgrave

The Family of Jim Guthrie, he died 12/11; Uncle of Sandra Hoffarth

The family of Tim Wilson, he died 12/11; by Judy Evans

Jean Simpson 12/13 having pacemaker replaced 12/15; by Letty McKee

Sandra Gibbons 12/10 Ft Wayne Hospital, additional concerns for blood clots, low sugar, pneumonia, and is on oxygen; by Stacey Gibbons

Chloeann Choate 12/7 had a bone and brain scan, pneumonia getting better

Marianne Van Winkle 12/7 has FSGS of the kidneys, pray that her kidney numbers stay stable; daughter of Dee & Mike Van Winkle

Daniel Gregory 12/6 right lower lung nodule, tests; by Jeannie Gregory

Samantha Hisey and family 12/6 quarantined, waiting covid results; daughter of Judy Miller

The family of Sandy Denton, died 12/5; by Sandra Hoffarth

Lorin Dean 12/4 surgery; granddaughter of Jan Houlihan

Jennifer Rodriguez 12/2 in rehab for hip replacement surgery; daughter of Gayle Rodriguez

Rick Biggs 12/2 lung cancer, dementia, chemo; nephew of Jean Koch

Imogene Wilson 11/29 Covid; by Sandra Hoffarth

Bonnie Long 11/22 Leukemia, started treatments; sister of Jan Houlihan

Gene Powell 11/8 terminal lung cancer; by John Overmars

Kaden Hazen 11/4 in hospital for round 4 immunotherapy; by Nancy Waggoner

Gail Hayden 11/2 home with care: sister-in-law of Melinda Burkett

David Gottschalk 10/30 veins blocked in legs, scans; son of Bob & Elaine Gottschalk

Dr. James Kolachek 10/28 cancer; by Judy Musgrave

Shawn Ramsay 8/23 throat cancer, started treatments; son-in-law of Susan Dunn

Rebecca Bolinger 8/6 breast cancer; co-worker of Amy Van Heyningen

Barb Tullis 8/6 lung cancer; sister of Helen Enyart

Pray for our **schools, students, & parents**

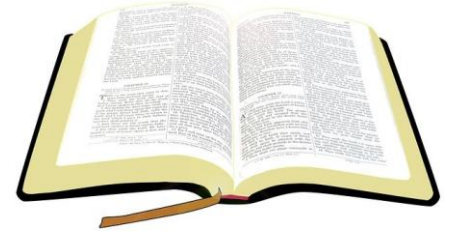
Joys

Jodi Fincher is now home in Akron after long stay in NM from Covid; daughter of Arlene Hounshell





Teaching Moment Tuesday III



The next chapter of Teaching Moment Tuesday will begin three days before Christmas. We have already studied "Church 101" and the New Testament book of Philippians. Our new adventure will explore some Spiritual Disciplines which help keep us connected to God and God's will for our lives. The goal will be to help round-out our Spiritual health. Pastor Mike confesses, "Physical and spiritual disciplines are the only thing keeping me going through this time of social isolation." Join the new study Tuesdays at noon or anytime after on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/rochfcc>



Christmas Poinsettias in Honor/Memory

*Gayle Rodriguez
Doug & Lois Morton
Patrick McTaggart
Marty & Jan Houlihan
Rich & Paula Murphy
Sandra Hoffarth
Susan Garman*

*In Memory of Mark Rodriguez
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Memory of Linda McTaggart
In Memory of their Parents
In Memory of Loves Ones
In Memory of Paula McKinney
In Memory of Bill Garman*





- 12/15 Mike & Amy Van Heyningen
- 12/17 Craig & Lori Simpson
- 12/20 Steve & Kathy Politz
- 12/23 Marvin & Linda Overmyer



- 1/22 John & Susan Dunn
- 1/24 Ted & Nancy Waggoner



Special thanks to:

Our Ministry Team leaders who are finishing a turbulent year of service: Judy Evans, Membership Team; Lois Hammel, Pastor Relationships Team, Jennifer Hughey, Stewardship Team; Dave Lease, Finance Team; Angie Miller, Evangelism Team; Charlotte Miller, Outreach Team; Doug Morton, Worship Team; Steve Politz, Property Team; Lori Shewman, Adult Christian Education; Deb Tyler, Children & Youth Christian Education; and Ted Waggoner, Technology Task Force.

Our worship leaders, musicians and technology folks who kept worship going on Facebook even when we could not meet in person.

Check us out on the web!

www.rochfcc.org

Look us up and share online
First Christian Church (DOC)
Rochester Indiana



- 12/16 Ben Whitfield
- 12/17 Daniel Abbott
- 12/18 Harper Simpson
- 12/19 Sandra Gibbons
- 12/21 Ken Hughes
- 12/21 Marvin Murphy
- 12/22 Jim Wilber
- 12/23 Joyce Mikesell
- 12/25 JESUS
- 12/25 Angie Miller
- 12/27 Cathy Ralstin
- 12/28 Will Van Heyningen
- 12/29 Madison Miller
- 12/29 Bill Shewman



- 1/03 Susan Bryant
- 1/07 Brett Hooker
- 1/07 Matt McKee
- 1/07 Helen Whitfield
- 1/11 Roger Bryant
- 1/16 Sarah Burch
- 1/16 Traci Miller
- 1/16 De Shaun Whitfield
- 1/16 Micah Whitfield
- 1/17 Betty Pope
- 1/20 Steve Klepinger
- 1/22 Mark Sroufe
- 1/26 Madison Castro
- 1/26 Amy Bode
- 1/27 Melinda Burkett
- 1/31 Dennis Mikesell



We have been working on some alternative giving options during this time of Online Worship. We now have four different ways you can give your offering to First Christian Church.

1. Through the "Give +" Mobile Giving App, you can give right from your smart phone.
2. You can also use the "Give+" through an internet link
3. You can simply mail your offering to First Christian Church at 1101 Madison Street in Rochester, Indiana 46975
4. Finally, you can contact your bank and set up an electronic funds transfer.



You can use the link below for more information. If you have any questions or need help with either Give+ option, please call Angie Miller at 574-292-1512.

[Giving at FCC Rochester](#)

Worship with Us Online

From now into the foreseeable future we will continue our online worship format which is available at 9:25 Sunday morning and any time after that at <https://www.facebook.com/rochfcc> Share the link. It is easier to share the invitation electronically now that the service is electronic.

